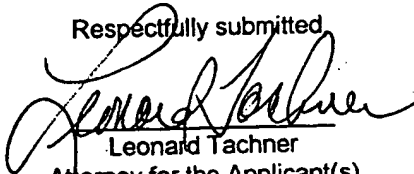


R marks

Claims 2-4 and 8-10 are pending. Claims 2 and 8 have been amended to overcome rejections under 35 USC 112 and to clarify the differences between the invention claimed and the cited art. More specifically, Goldberg shows parallel grooves separated by flat regions. Goldberg describes these grooves as air foils and means for reducing frictional contact with the ground (see bottom of Column 1). On the other hand, Applicant's grooves provide "intermediate sharp edges" (also see Applicant's FIG. 4) for digging into hard pan surfaces (see enclosed printout from Applicant's website regarding "sharp edges"). Clearly, Applicant's claimed groove configuration is patentably distinct from that of Goldberg and other related art and also serves a different purpose.

Based upon the foregoing, it is believed that pending claims 2-4 and 8-10 recite patentable subject matter that is neither anticipated by nor obvious over the art of record. Accordingly, an allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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6

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